



County of Placer
Fish and Game Commission

11477 E Avenue ▪ Auburn, CA 95603 ▪ (530) 889-7372

District 1 – Don Gould
District 2 – Mark Fowler
District 3 – Jim Victorine

District 5 – Kari Freidig
District 5 – Mickey Daniels
District 5 – Scott Husmann

District 4 – Gary Flanagan

MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, February 28, 2018, 6:00 P.M.
Placer County Planning Commission Hearing Room
3091 County Center Drive, Auburn, CA
County Contact: Ed King

1. **Call to Order** – The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Mark Fowler at 6:02 pm.
2. **Roll Call** Present: Don Gould, Mark Fowler, Jim Victorine, Scott Husmann, Gary Flanagan, Absent: Kari Freidig, Mickey Daniels
Member of the Public: Marilyn Jasper
3. **Approval of February 28, 2018 Agenda & January 24, 2018 Minutes**
Approval of January 24, 2018 minutes: Gould/Flanagan, MPUV
Approval of February 28, 2018 Agenda: Flanagan/Victorine, MPUV
4. **Public Comment:** Individuals may address the Commission on items under the jurisdiction of the Fish and Game Commission not included on this agenda for no longer than five (5) minutes. **No action can be taken on items addressed under Public Comment.** There was no public comment.
5. **Financial Report**
Operational expenditures through January totaled \$2,716.
Court fines and penalty assessments through January totaled \$254.
6. **Agency Reports**
 - A. **Commissioner Reports**

Gary Flanagan thanked Marilyn Jasper for her timely reminder on uncollected compensation from Placer County. Scott Husmann reported on his informational talk with the Foresthill Forum on the California Deer Association's presentation to the commission in January. He also reported on the meeting he had with Don Anderson and Bill Ritzman with Placer County DPW regarding water run-off and road maintenance practices in the Foresthill area. A follow-up letter is planned.

Jim Victorine reported on the closure of fishing in the Nimbus Basin on the lower American River as a prelude for a new fish ladder.

Gary sent out an email asking for suggestions for ponds or lakes suitable



for recreational fish plantings. A few suggestions were Foresthill, Meadow Vista (Lake Theodore), Roseville, and Lincoln. A response will be helpful for the speaker next month – Mitch Lockhart, CDFW Fisheries Biologist. CDFW is also releasing trophy trout in rivers, creeks, and lakes, but there are no planned locations in Placer for this yet, something to consider for future action.

- B. State Fish & Game Commission Subcommittee:** Mark Fowler reported that Nutria have been discovered in the San Joaquin Valley; mainly wetlands, rivers and canals. CDFW is seeking to prevent further spreading. Nutria cause severe soil erosion and damage to ag crops and levees. They are native to South America and can reach 2 ½' in length. The females are reproductive at 6 months, breed year around and produce 3 litters in 13 months (one year of reproductive life span can equal 200 young).

CDFW released a half million steelhead smolts into the Feather River near Yuba City (Feather River steelhead are a state and federal species of concern). The eggs were rescued from the Feather River spillway failure in 2017.

Californians can donate to the California Sea Otter fund and the Rare and Endangered Species Preservation Fund when filing tax returns.

CDFW is accepting Fisheries Habitat Restoration proposals online with the deadline of March 30th at 5:00 pm.

The spring turkey season opens March 31 and runs through May 6. Juniors may hunt the weekend before (March 24 and 25). Archery season is open May 7-20.

- C. Land Use Subcommittee:** Scott Husmann, Don Gould – Scott reported that three applications were forwarded, but none had any fish and wildlife issues worth addressing.
- D. Department of Fish & Wildlife –** Lt. Moore reported that there was a tanker-tow truck collision on Hwy 20 that resulted in a fuel spill. Some fuel got into the drainage ditch, but did not reach the Bear River. Contaminated soil had to be removed and the Water Resources Control Board is monitoring. There was also a used vegetable oil spill in Rocklin. Some product went into the storm drains then into Sucker Ravine. The cleanup is finished and no fish or wildlife were lost.

Lt. Moore is planning to meet with CDFW general counsel and the Placer DA in March to discuss fish and game cases and prosecutions. He will report on any agreements that may come from this.

E. Nevada Irrigation District and Placer County Water Agency

NID: District storage = 236,100 AF (138% of average for this date); precipitation at Bowman = 36.33" (79% average). Feb was another dry month, but the early forecast for March looks promising. We will be conducting snow surveys this week. The above average storage continues to be the bright spot and will help buffer impacts if the precipitation continues to be below average.

PCWA: No report.

7. Informational Items

Craig Lorge, Park Ranger, California State Parks – Presentation on hunting, fishing, and other recreation opportunities on Folsom Lake State Recreation Area lands.

Craig has been a ranger at Folsom Lake State Recreation Area for 5½ years. The recreation area covers 19,500 acres and includes Folsom Lake and Lake Natoma. He stated the mission as guardians of the system is to protect resources, conduct maintenance, provide education, manage operations and visitor services, and public safety. His job as a ranger in an urban setting emphasizes law enforcement and emergency response in addition to resource protection.

Folsom Lake SRA is a diverse environment that accommodates multiple uses including flood control and extensive recreation including boating, swimming, camping, hiking, biking, equestrian use, and fishing.

He pointed out that Anderson Island is protected as a rookery for bald eagles and related species such as osprey. Mississippi Bar on Lake Natoma is also a protected rookery. Other wildlife in the SRA include owls, turkeys, red-tail hawks, cormorants, egrets, herons, coyotes, foxes, mountain lions, rattlesnakes, black-tailed-deer, bears, river otters, beavers, skunks, and ground squirrels. California DPH collects ticks in the SRA for research.

Invasive plants water hyacinth and Eurasian watermilfoil are found in Lake Natoma. Staff also conduct outreach and monitor for quagga and zebra mussels, which are yet not present in the SRA.

Trout, salmon, steelhead, catfish, carp, pike minnow, bass, crawfish are all present in the SRA. Craig reported that there are many carp that are not native, but there is no good eradication system for them. Bow hunting is not allowed because no weapons are allowed in the SRA. King salmon have been planted in Folsom Lake in past years, but not since 2006.

Rangers conduct enforcement activities for take limits, poaching, illegal fishing (e.g. use of spear guns, snagging), oil and gas spills, and feeding wildlife.

Craig pointed out that there is a warning for fish consumption due to mercury content: women 18-45 and children 1-17 should only have 2 servings per week of trout under 16 inches (along with sunfish and bluegill) and not to eat King salmon, bass, or catfish over 16 inches. Men over 17 and women over 45 may have 5 servings/week of smaller fish, but only 2 servings/week of fish over 16 inches.

19 rangers patrol the SRA with additional support staff which increases during summer months.

Enforcement actions are assigned to the jurisdiction where the violations occur.

Fish plants occur according to CDFWs schedule.

There are restrictions on removing driftwood from the SRA.

8. Adjournment – The meeting was adjourned at 7:24.

The next meeting is March 28, 2018.